



AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITY  
WOMEN

# AAUW-LONG BEACH VANTAGE

May 2008

Long Beach Branch, Vol. 37 Issue 9

Flo Pickett, Program VP

## *MEMBERSHIP GARDEN PARTY SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2008*

Join us on Saturday, May 3, 2008 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM for our Spring Membership Garden Party at the home of Jean Aldrich 7970 Ring Street in El Dorado Park Estates, Long Beach.

The garden party is our annual membership social and a great chance to bring your friends who would like to know what AAUW is all about. It's a time to socialize with old friends and meet new ones. All of our major programs will have tables discussing their goals and accomplishments. The new members group will be raffling a basket with the proceeds going to help buy hygiene kit items for the Bethune School.

Refreshments will be served. No charge for this event. Please bring a prospective new member or two!

Put this on your calendar now and remember to invite your friends.



Norma Grady, Membership Treasurer

### **IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR**

June is rapidly approaching, marking the end of the Branch fiscal year. You should receive your renewal notice for 2008-2009 membership dues by the end of April.

The Association has increased its dues by \$2, so that the total for those of you who are not life members will be \$91 [Association \$49; State \$16; and local Branch \$26]. Please note that although Association and State have raised their dues several times in the last few years, the branch has not.

If you have any questions, please call me at (562) 596-2819 or email at nsgrady1@verizon.net.

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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

Flo Pickett of Main Street Realtors was recognized and commended at the Long Beach Women's Council of Realtors' Breakfast of Champions in March for her outstanding sales performance and achievement in 2007. Congratulations, Flo!.

Birthday greetings to all May honorees.

Happy Mother's Day to All!

*We can complain because rose bushes have thorns or rejoice because thorn bushes have roses.*

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- 5/3 Afternoon Membership Garden Party  
Location: Jean Aldrich's home  
7970 Ring Ave, Long Beach
- 6/7 Lunch, Old Ranch Country Club  
Installation of New Officers

PLEASE JOIN US

Prospective New Members  
Welcome at Every Meeting

## REMEMBER

*EQUITY IS STILL AN ISSUE*

Betty Shaw/Linda Silver, Co-Secretary

## BOARD BRIEF

The Board of Directors of the AAUW Long Beach Branch met on March 17, 2008. Regular Board Business was conducted. The following motion was passed.

Darlene Daclan moved that the New Members Group have permission to auction a basket at the Membership Garden Party in May. The funds for the basket would go toward the personal grooming kits the group has been putting together for the Bethune School. The motion was seconded by Jere Millington and unanimously approved.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

All members of the 2007 – 2008 board and 2008 – 2009 boards should plan to attend the Board of Directors meeting on Monday, May 19, 2008, at St. Luke's.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The last executive committee meeting for 2007 – 2008 will be held on Monday, April 21, 2008 at the home of Deloris Mayuga. The meeting will start promptly at 6:30 PM.

AAUW-LONG BEACH WEBSITE: <http://www.aauw-longbeach.org>  
Co-Webmaster: George Jackson – email him at [gl\\_jackson@hotmail.com](mailto:gl_jackson@hotmail.com)

## **CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE**

"It's All About the Mission" was the theme for the 87<sup>th</sup> AAUW California state convention that was held April 4 – 6, 2008. The Value Promise for AAUW was introduced to articulate and express the spirit of AAUW that brings together women all across our country, unifying us and all we do for women and girls. "By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so all women have a fair chance (90,000+ voices raised together)."

On Friday evening the proposed Bylaws amendment, concerning the election of 16 directors to lead AAUW during the transition period, was passed. We heard a brief presentation from 17 candidates for directors and elections were the next day. On Saturday Linda Patten, Judith Kaho, Deloris Mayuga, and Sharon Westafer attended various workshops on incorporating our mission into all aspects of branch programming. We met the new Executive Director of AAUW, Linda Hallman.

At the Public Policy Breakfast, AAUW CA Public Policy Advocate, Charlotte Newhart, gave an explanation on legislative issues on which AAUW has taken a position. She explained several bills, including one concerning lead in lipstick (SB1712). The Saturday Plenary was a panel of advocates for women and different aspects of their lives. In addition, on Saturday, we heard Dr. Catherine Hill, AAUW Director of Research, speak about the Pay Gap and other research reports.

The Long Beach branch was honored for our EF contributions. Of all the California branches, we were #9 in total donations and #8 in per capita donations. We also were honored for having an increase in membership this year: we were one of the two out of 17 branches in LACIC to have an increase in members. Congratulations to all of our members for making these awards happen.

Finally, mark your calendars for 2009; AAUW California convention will be in San Diego on April 24 – 26 and association convention will be in St. Louis on June 26 – 28.

Judith Kaho and Deloris Mayuga

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From AAUW-CA.ORG

## **NEW STATEWIDE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The following 16 people were elected to the 2008 - 2010 AAUW CA Board of Directors [alphabetical order by last name]: Lynne Batchelor, Rozanne Child, Letitia Corum, Kathleen Doty, Donna Erickson, Mickie Feicht, Jo Harberson, Anne Henke, Karen Jackle, Sherry Ludwig, Bakula Maniar, Judith Pfeil, Gail Swain, Gloria Taylor, Patricia Toth, and Harriett Tower. The newly elected officers met and selected the following leaders, to begin serving on July 1, 2008: Presidents, Judith Pfeil and Gloria Taylor; Vice President, Mickie Feicht; Secretary, Kathleen Doty.

## **THE BEGINNING OF THE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**

AAUW has had a fellowship and scholarship program since its earliest days; however, EF as we know it is only fifty years old. In the early 1950s, members of AAUW were struggling with the issue of utilizing the college educations they were obtaining while keeping the domestic parts of their lives in balance.

Frances Concordia was one of the women that exemplified “the combination of family and professional talents that AAUW sought to promote.” (Degrees of Equality, p. 94) She had a degree from the University of Michigan and a Ph.D. in business administration from Northwestern University. The year 1936 marked her entry into the world of investment counseling, and six years later she moved on to a job as a market and economic research analyst with General Electric. It was there that Frances was recruited by her boss’s wife to join AAUW. She found the wide range of AAUW’s community activities attractive. In 1953, like many women of that period, she left her job to devote herself to her family and community issues. Frances used her professional training in volunteer efforts and served on both branch and state boards. She joined the national board in 1953 as treasurer. Her comment in a later interview was that she found the Association’s finances “in kind of bad shape.”

Concordia recognized the need for Association funds to be managed more efficiently. She was anxious to see research and fellowship programs gather more funds and to put them to work. An increase in the amount of funds being gathered required a separate financial structure that would allow the contributions to be tax deductible.

At the 1955 Association convention, it was voted to establish the Educational Foundation. Partnering with Lucy Howorth, Frances found land in Washington D.C.’s Foggy Bottom neighborhood. Within a year, a building was under construction. And, the response from the membership made it unnecessary to use the million dollar mortgage that Concordia had arranged. In July of 1960, AAUW moved into the new building, unencumbered by debt.

In 1958, the Foundation received tax exempt status. The first endowment was launched with five thousand dollars from the administrative reserve and a gift of five thousand dollars from Frances Concordia’s husband. EF fellowships and research grants have continued to grow because members believe in supporting women working to find new areas of research, and helping them meet the challenges of the twenty-first century. We applaud Frances Concordia and those who worked with her to make the Educational Foundation a reality.

With Mother’s Day and graduations fast approaching, now is a great time to honor someone with a donation to EF in their name! Thank you to Jean Aldrich for her contribution in memory of Frances Magarian and to Sharon Westafer for her contribution in memory of Carol Lyons, a Stockton branch member.

## **STATEMENT REGARDING CALIFORNIA BUDGET CRISIS March 25, 2008**

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) has been a staunch supporter of education for 126 years. Our nearly 14,000 members in California sympathize with those who protest proposed cuts to education. We all have worked hard to build education budgets that reduce class size, increase accountability, and improve performance.

Let us remember that the proposals from Sacramento spare no department, programs, or services. Cuts to health care will deny access to millions of working poor including children who attend school and may come when ill. Cuts may result in the release of more than 20,000 inmates from state prisons. Cuts will close 20% of California state parks. Our roads and bridges will not be upgraded. As all Californians face these looming budget reductions AAUW California urges a reasoned, well thought out approach that takes into account the following points.

- Protect the basic education and human services infrastructure. Support services that benefit our children, the elderly, the disabled, and the poor and restore funding in these areas when state revenues increase.
- Maintain all health and safety standards.
- Insert sunset provisions to ensure periodic review of programs, services, and taxes/fees for redundancies and inefficiencies.
- Equitably distribute funding cuts. No department or program should be held harmless or excluded from review.
- Seriously assess the options for tax and fee increases. A balanced approach of revenue increase and expenditure reduction, geared to maintaining a safety net of vital government services, is the most fair and rational one.
- Restructure the education funding system. Establish an education commission charged to formulate and recommend reform measures to the legislature.

### **A STATEMENT OF AAUW CA PRINCIPLES REGARDING HEALTHCARE REFORM IN CALIFORNIA -- MARCH 2008**

The mission of The American Association of University Women, advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research, speaks to women's needs, aspirations and concerns across the life span. The work of AAUW builds upon a century of responsible public participation at the local, state, national and international levels. Access to quality health care over the life span is a priority of our California members. We urge our legislators and Governor to consider the following as they work to improve California's health care system.

The members of the American Association of University Women of California believe healthcare is a human right. Every person must have access to healthcare for societal well being and survival. Successful reform measures must be dedicated to:

- Universal access
- Reasonable costs maintained by a strong cost containment provision
- Protection of patient rights by advocacy for and education of patients.
- High quality and a consistent administration of care
- Comprehensive reproductive health care and family planning services.

## **PUBLIC POLICY**

**The Prevention First Act** (S.21/H.R. 819). The Center for Disease Control released data last month that estimates that one in four young women between the ages of 14 and 19 in the United States – over 3 million girls – is infected with at least one of the four most common sexually transmitted diseases. These STDs: human papillomavirus, Chlamydia, herpes simplex virus and trichomoniasis, have severe health effects for women and girls ranging from infertility to cervical cancer. The widespread prevalence of such serious infections serves to emphasize the need for public health prevention strategies that benefit vulnerable girls. Not only should access to screening and vaccination be widely available, girls must be educated on prevention strategies and have accurate information on contraception use.

The Prevention First Act includes a myriad of provisions that would expand access to contraception and preventative health care services that help reduce unplanned pregnancies, abortions, and the spread of sexually transmitted diseases while improving access to women's health care. It would also provide a federal funding stream for comprehensive sex education in schools. Currently, there are three separate federal programs that fund abstinence-only-until-marriage programs, but no federal funding exists specifically for comprehensive sex education – age appropriate education that promotes abstinence but includes information about contraception. The Act also includes several other provisions to promote better health education.

AAUW supports the right of every woman to safe, accessible, affordable, and comprehensive family planning and reproductive health services and believes that improved pregnancy prevention programs and access to complete reproduction health information and services enhance women's reproductive choices.

From AAUW-CA.ORG

## **A CONVERSATION STARTER**

Our research keeps AAUW in the limelight, and people want to hear from us. AAUW has made recent headlines at [cnn.com](http://cnn.com), The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, NPR, and other media outlets. As AAUW members, we need to make these reports our own for our one-on-one connections with other people. It's a great way to start a conversation.

Our new study "Where the Girls Are: the Facts about Gender Equity in Education." shows:

- When girls' scores go up, so do boys'. The report looks at high school graduation rates, SAT and ACT scores, and other sources.
- In states where girls do well, boys do well. There is no evidence that girls are hurting boys' achievement.
- A majority of low income girls are low in math proficiency in high school. Higher income girls are proficient. Therefore, family income remains important in the achievement of proficiency.

We are asked to make our general branch membership aware of new reports. Share the reports, then ask for responses from membership. The research reports have served as the basis for AAUW programming for the last 15 years.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS POSITIONS AVAILABLE

It is time to think about the position you would like on our Board of Directors. There are offices, chair, and co-chair positions open. We anticipate a number of changes this year as well as next; be part of the excitement while helping the branch and our fellow members. Please call 562/402-6831.

Tech-Trek, Linda Patten

## TECH TREK AT WHITTIER COLLEGE NEEDS YOUR HELP!

We have seven happy girls eager to attend Tech Trek in August. They appreciate the opportunity you have provided.

The representative at Whittier College e-mailed the following message: *Tech Trek requires branches that send more than 5 campers to a single camp, to commit to sending a volunteer to the campus to help and/or donate essentials for the girls.*

### 2008 Whittier Tech Trek Wish list

- 1" 3-ring binders (130)
- Disposable cameras (100)
- Grocer's Gift certificates/cards for snacks and drinks (approx. \$500)
- Decorations for Professional Women's Dinner (i.e.; centerpieces (15), table cloths (15))
- Hostess/gift cards/donations for staff dinner- Saturday, Aug 2, 2008 (16 attendees)
- Color markers, poster paper

To donate items or volunteer, please contact Linda Patten at (562) 402-6831 to coordinate with the Whittier College Tech Trek representative.

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From AAUW.ORG

## EQUAL PAY DAY – APRIL 22, 2008

*Behind the Pay Gap*, research released in April 2007 by the AAUW Educational Foundation, shows that just one year out of college, women working full time already earn less than their male colleagues, even when they work in the same field. Ten years after graduation, the pay gap widens. In 2005, the most recent year for which data is available, women continue to earn only 77 cents on the dollar to their male counterparts. To match men's earnings for 2007, women have to work from January 2007 to April 2008 — an extra four months. In recognition of this inequity, Equal Pay Day will be celebrated on **April 22, 2008**. For more information go to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org).

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## INTEREST GROUPS

**Public Policy** please contact Betty Ann Rauch 562-431-6679 for information.

**New Members** contact Betty Thompson's, 562-430-8438 for future meeting information

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

**Literary Ladies** meet the second Monday of the month, 1 PM, at Jean Aldrich's home. Please call Pat Ferrer, 562 597 4781 for more information.

**Great Books** meets the 1<sup>st</sup> 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** please contact Barbara Gleason, 562-421-2206, for information.

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

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

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

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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, disability, or class.

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